

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 EB-11 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 COME-00 DRC-01 /087 W

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P 011734Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8802

INFO AMEMBASSY KIGALI PRIORITY

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EADI, RW, US BE

SUBJECT: TOURISM ASSISTANCE IN RWANDA

REF: STATE 194502

1. HODI, RWANDAN DESK OFFICER IN OFFICE OF COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT, INFORMED EMBASSY OCTOBER 1. THAT DECISION ON BELGIAN TOURISM PROJECT IN RWANDA STILL PENDING. ACCORDING TO HODI, REPORT OF EVALUATION MISSION WHICH VISITED RWANDA EARLY 1973 HAS BEEN IN OFFICE OF INSPECTOR OF FINANCES SINCE SEPTEMBER 9 AND IS EXPECTED TO GO TO SECSTATE FOR COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT PETRY IN ABOUT A WEEK. HODI ESTIMATED THAT PETRY WILL MADE DECISION ABOUT MID-OCTOBER. HE SAID PETRY STILL HAS RESERVATIONS ABOUT SUCH AID FOR RWANDA BUT NOTED THAT PREVIOUS SECSTATES HAD COMMITTED GOB TO TOURISM PROJECT. EXISTENCE OF THAT COMMITMENT COMBINED POLITICAL ATTENTION FOCUSED ON PROJECT DURING PRIME MINISTER LEBURTON'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA AT GISENYE AUGUST 31 AND PETRY'S OWN MEETING WITH FONMIN NSEKALIJE IN BRUSSELS LAST WEEK, LEAD HODI TO BELIEVE THAT PETRY WILL APPROVE TOURISM PROJECT.

2. PROJECT CALLS FOR GRANT OF 150 MILLION BELGIAN FRANCS TO COVER INCREASE IN NUMBER OF ROOMS AT HOTEL DES DIPLOMATES IN KIGALI, PERSONNEL TRAINING, AND REHABILITATION OF GABIRO GUEST HOUSE AT KAGERA PARK. HODI UNCERTAIN WHAT OTHER ITEMS GOB MIGHT

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BE ABLE TO COVER WITH GRANT, BUT HE SAID ADDITIONAL FUNDS MOST

PROBABLY WOULD BE NEEDED TO BUILD PROPOSED HOTEL IN SOUTH OF
KAGERA PARK AND REFRESHMENT STAND IN PARK'S CENTER.

3. HODI ALSO SAID THAT IN CONVERSATION ON TOURISM PROJECT TWO
WEEKS AGO WITH FIRST COUNSELOR OF RWANDAN EMBASSY, HE HAD
RECOMMENDED TO COUNSELOR THAT ROUND TABLE OF PROSPECTIVE DONORS IN
TOURISM FIELD BE HELD AND THE INITIATIVE COME FROM GOR.

4. JAENEN, FONOFF DESK OFFICER FOR RWANDA, TOLD US OCTOBER 1
THAT BELGIAN-RWANDAN MIXED COMMISSION ON AID WILL MEET SOON IN
KIGALI, POSSIBLY DURING OCTOBER. JAENEN EXPECTED PETRY DECISION
ON TOURISM NOT TO BE AFFECTED BY TIMING OF MEETING.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, TOURISM PROMOTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BRUSSE05609
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731060/aaaabshf.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 194502
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Oct-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <05-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TOURISM ASSISTANCE IN RWANDA
TAGS: EAID, RW, US, BE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005